

## MINUTES

### SELECT BOARD JOINT WITH THE ORLEANS SELECT BOARD

**Meeting:** Monday, December 13, 2021, 5:30 PM

**Location:** Eastham Public Library

**Present:** Arthur Autorino, Chair; Aimée Eckman, Vice Chair; Jacqui Beebe, Town Administrator; Rich Bienvenue, Assistant Town Administrator/Finance Director; Shana Brogan, Projects and Procurement Director

**Remote Participation:** Jamie Demetri; Alexander Cestaro, Clerk; Jared Collins

**Also Present:** Orleans Select Board – Mark Mathison; Mefford Runyon; Andrea Shaw Reed; Kevin Galligan; Michael Herman; and John Kelly, Town Administrator; Leslie Fields, Woods Hole Group

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Arthur Autorino called the Eastham meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Mefford Runyon called the Orleans meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

#### Update from Leslie Fields of Woods Hole Group on project permitting and timeline

Leslie Fields advised that the draft EINF was submitted in early fall for review by both Towns. Based on that review from the Boards and the public, it was identified that the dewatering location would have to be looked at again. In addition, Eastham confirmed that they had a change of opinion on the dredge and so further work was stopped pending discussion.

Jacqui Beebe advised that Eastham asked the Center of Coastal Studies to conduct studies to provide information on the benthic, finfish and sand migration to provide information for the Town to make a decision on the impact of a dredge in the Nauset Estuary. The full report should be available in the near future.

#### Discuss Nauset Estuary Dredging Project

The Board's discussed the project and the following are some points made:

- Concern with the economic impact of the project – what is the cost and what is the benefit
- Eastham Residential feedback opposing the project – majority of residents oppose
- Environmental concerns
- Recognize that the fishermen do have a harder time getting into the estuary but they are still doing it so it is not impossible
- The sand shoaling is a natural process and we should work with it not make it work for us
- In Eastham, the project would have to go through the Strategic Plan and it currently does not fit in the plan approved by the Town
- Orleans considers the project as 2 parts – first is the permitting process to see if it is viable environmentally and economically and the second part is the actual dredge

#### Review Second Memorandum of Understanding dated May 13, 2021

Section 9 of the MOU does note that Eastham can withdraw at any time. Does Eastham want to withdraw? If so, then Eastham should withdraw and Orleans can proceed as they determine they should.

#### Public Comment:

- Jon Granlund, Eastham – expressed his disappointment with Eastham for considering pulling out now and is concerned that the permitting portion of the project be stopped at

this time. Eastham should step aside and let Orleans proceed with the project.

- Scott Zenke, Orleans – the Towns have bigger infrastructure costs coming down the road and is not in support of this for 13 businesses.
- Garrett Lomparto, Eastham – expressed the struggles of getting into the estuary and the need to dredge.

Arthur Autorino thanked everyone for their comments and advised that Eastham is not in favor of the project and owes Orleans confirmation on whether Eastham will withdraw from the MOU.

Orleans asked if Eastham would share with them the information they have for their meeting on Wednesday, December 15, 2020 as they will be discussing their options of moving forward on the project. Jacqui Beebe advised that Eastham has a list of their concerns and she will share that with Orleans for their meeting.

Aimée Eckman made a motion for Eastham to withdraw its participation from the permitting project for the Nauset Estuary Dredge as provided under Section 9 of the MOU dated May 13, 2021

Jamie Demetri seconded the motion

#### **DISCUSSION:**

Jared Collins noted that he would like to continue participating with Orleans but recognizes the feedback from the Eastham residents

Charlie Carlson, Orleans – 2 questions:

1. We really do not know how the residents of Eastham feel about the project as there has not been an article for them to vote on. Should a petitioner's article be included on the spring warrant?
2. This is a big economic issue for Orleans. Will Eastham allow Orleans to proceed with the permitting process? If it moves forward, the Eastham Conservation Commission will review the Notice of Intent.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Aimée Eckman, Yes; Arthur Autorino, Yes; Alexander Cestaro, Yes; Jared Collins, Yes; Jamie Demetri, Yes**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Aimée Eckman made a motion to adjourn at 6:40 PM

Jamie Demetri seconded the motion

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Aimée Eckman, Yes; Arthur Autorino, Yes; Alexander Cestaro, Yes; Jared Collins, Yes; Jamie Demetri, Yes**

Respectfully submitted,



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Laurie Gillespie-Lee